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AMES' SERIES OF
STANDARD AND MINOR DRAMA.
NO. 109.

1889

Other People's Children

WITH CAST OF CHARACTERS, ENTRANCES, AND EXITS, RELATIVE POSITIONS
OF THE PERFORMERS ON THE STAGE, DESCRIPTION OF COS-
TUMES, AND THE WHOLE OF THE STAGE BUSINESS,
AS PERFORMED AT THE PRINCIPAL
AMERICAN AND ENGLISH
THEATRES.

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17	Hints on Elocution and how to become an Actor,.....		
103	How Sister P. got Child Baptized, etho farce, 1 act,.....	2	1
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74	How to tame Mother-in-law, farce, 1 act, by H. J. Byron...	4	2
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3	Lady of Lyons, drama, 5 acts, by Bulwer.....	12	5
104	Lost, temperance drama, 3 acts, by F. L. Cutler.....	6	2
106	Lodgings for Two, comic sketch, 1 act, by F. L. Cutler.....	3	0



Catalogue continued on next page of cover.



OTHER PEOPLE'S CHILDREN,

An Ethiopian Farce,

IN ONE ACT,

— BY —

A. NEWTON FIELD,

AUTHOR OF

The Hominy Man, Those Awful Boys, School, Twain's Dodging,
Reverses, The Yankee Duelist, The New Magdalen,
Bill Detrick, etc.

With entrances and Exits, List of Properties, and Stage Business
carefully marked: Printed from the Author's own Mss.

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(1881)
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OTHER PEOPLE'S CHILDREN.



CHARACTERS.



Budgie	}	Other People's Children
Toddie		
"Nunkie" Harry.....		Don't believe in Children
Aunt Alice		Harry's wife
Mrs. Congressman Thistletop.....		Not much of Anybody



COSTUMES—APPROPRIATE.



PROPERTIES.—Picture books; large stone jar; large bottle labelled "Gargling Oil; large paddle; cheese box, marked "Axle Grease; violin made out of an old cheese box, with a long neck; cords for strings; bow well rosined; tin whistle; cane and club.



Time of performance, twenty minutes.

TMP 96-006633

Other People's Children.

SCENE FIRST.—Parlor in second grooves, Budgie and Toddie discovered playing with picture books.

B. Say, Toddie, don't you wish you was a horse?

T. No, I wish I was a jackass.

B. Don't wish again fer you's got yer wish: You's de biggest jackass I ever saw.

T. Ain't you glad we's come to live with Nunkie Harry, and Aunt Alice. Now we can do jes' as we like, and not get licked.

B. You bet we won't. (*tearing book and throwing pieces all around*) I don't like Aunt Alice's picture books, does you, Toddie?

T. No, I doesn't, and I ain't a goin' to read in dem any more.

Enter Aunt Alice, and Harry R.

Alice. Those blessed angels, how pretty they are! (*sees torn book*) Why, what have you done, torn all those nice books I bought you?

T. No, Auntie, dey all felled to pieces, and we couldn't help it, could we Budgie?

B. No, we couldn't, and we tried to hold them together, didn't we, Toddie?

T. Yes we did, dear little brother Budgie.

Harry. Alice, I think you have undertaken a care that you will tire of. I have had some experience, and speak whereof I know. You will send those boys home before a month—now mark what I say.

Alice. No, indeed, Harry, you don't know what government I have over other people's children. I never yet saw the child I could not conquer by kindness. I don't believe in whipping, so you wait and see how well I succeed.

Harry. Well, Alice, you can try your hand, but remember, I say you will fail. (*exit Harry R.*)

Alice. Now my dear boys, I have a visit to make, and I am sure

that you are going to be good boys, and do what is nice and pretty while I'm gone. Won't you, dears?

B. Of course we will, Aunty. You know dat we's good boys, and won't do anything naughty, will we Toddie?

T. No, we won't Aunty.

Alice. Well, good bye, my dears, I will be back soon. Now remember your promise, my pets. (*aside*) The cook is busy making tomato pickles, and I shall just see how she gets along before I go. Ta, ta, my dears. (*kisses hand to boys, they kiss hand in return*)

B. and T. Good bye, Aunty. (*exit Alice L.*)

T. Say, Budgie, ain't Aunt Alice good. She don't scold us as much as Nunkie Harry did, and she is so nice, ain't she, Budgie?

B. Yes, she is, Toddie. Say, can't we help the cook fix dem pickles?

T. Of course we can. De big jar ob pickles stands out under de window to cool, jes' let's go and cool dem pickles.

B. Come along, Toddie, now don't fall. (*exeunt B.*)

SCENE SECOND.—Chamber in third grooves.

Enter Toddy and Budgie carrying a large stone jar, also large bottle labeled so as to be read by audience, "Gargling Oil." Toddy has a large paddle.

B. Oh, isn't dat heavy, Toddy?

T. You bet ye! (*rubs arms*)

B. Now dis will help de pickles to cool. (*pours oil into jar*)

T. (*jumping up and down*) Oh, won't Aunt Alice be surprised when she comes, 'cause we hab helped her so much.

B. (*stirs pickles*) Won't she dough! She don't know dat we can work, does she Toddy?

T. No, she don't. Say, get some of dat black stuff an put in here. (*exit Budgie R.*)

Enter Budgie, carrying cheese box, marked "Axle Grease." Pours grease out of box into jar.

B. Dat will make it moreder, won't it, Toddie?

B. Yes, and it will help to settle de pickles. Say, Budgie, here comes Aunty, let's hide and see how surprised she'll be.

B. } *Running out, singing.*
T. }

How doth de little bumble bee,
Improve each shinin' hour.] (*exeunt L.*)

Enter, Alice R. 1 E.

Alice. I wonder where those dear children are! Out on the lawn playing, no doubt, the little dears. I know very well I can break them of their habit of meddling, then perhaps Harry will believe in my power of governing 'other people's children.' (*She goes up C.,*

sees jar, box, paddle, bottle etc.—raises her hands) Dear me, what does this mean! (examines jar) What a horrible smell. (stirs the mixture with the paddle) Why, I declare, it is full of tomatoes and—yes—surely this is my pickle jar. Who could have brought this in here? (goes to L. 2 E., calls) Budgie, dear, where are you?

Enter Budgie and Toddie, hand in hand, L. 2 E., fingers in mouth.

T. What is it, Aunty?

Alice. Do you know who brought this in here?

B. Yes, Aunty, it was Toddie and me.

Alice. Where did you get it?

T. Dem's your pickles, what de cook set out dar to cool, an we made de jar full for you Aunty, ain't you glad?

Alice. How did you make it full?

B. You see we put in some of dis pepper-sauce.

(points to bottle)

B. Oh, Budgie, that is gargling oil!

T. But den we put in some of dat molasses. *(points to box)*
Didn't we, Budgie?

B. Yes, we did, and we made moreder and moreder pickles.

Alice *(crying)* Oh, dear me! Oh, dear me!

T. Aunty is so glad she weeps for joy.

Alice How could you be so naughty!

B. *(looks at Toddie—both cry very loud.)*

Enter Harry L. 1 E.

Harry. What in the world's the matter, what are you crying for? *(Budgie and Toddie cry louder—Harry puts fingers in his ears)* For heaven's sake stop that noise, and tell me what is the matter?

Alice. *(comes down, wiping her eyes)* Never mind, my dears, don't cry. Run out and play till dinner is called.

B. and T. *(taking hands)* We didn't get no lickin', we didn't get no lickin'! *(exit R. 1 E., skipping like children)*

Harry. *(sees jar, box and etc.)* What in the world is all this stuff doing here? *(looks at Alice, who turns away)* Ah, I see how it is! You left those little rascals alone when you went out, and they have been helping you in your fruit canning operation. *(laughs)* I told you, you'd suffer. What do you think of them now?

Alice. Well, it is annoying, but you must give me time. Habits like theirs cannot be broken up in a day or a week, and although they have ruined all my nice tomatoes, I'll conquer yet, mark that.

Harry. Well, my dear, if you are willing to try again, I have nothing to say.

Enter Budgie and Toddie, R., they sit on stage with hands behind them.

Alice. Are you going down town now, Harry?

Harry. Yes, I was on my way down and stopped in to see how you and the boys were doing.

Alice. Will you send me a pony and carriage from the livery? You know I'm invited out to early tea with Mrs. Congressman Thistletop, and I must start at one o'clock exactly.

Harry. Yes, my love. I wish I could afford to buy one for you, but I can't just now—I'm too poor. I'll get you one ob your own as soon as I can my dear. Good bye. (exit R. 1 E.)

Alice. Now, boys, aunty is going out and will be gone all the afternoon. You were naughty dis morning, but I know you are both sorry, and will try to be good boys till I come back. Won't you?

B. Yes, we'll be de bestest kind ob boys, won't we Toddie?

T. Yes, we will. Good bye, aunty.

Alice. Good bye, my pets. (exit L. 1 E.)

T. Budgie, let's get nunkie's fiddle, and your tin whistle and play for pennies on de streets, to buy Aunty Alice a horse and phantom.

B. Oh, yes, let's.

B. } (together) Oh, won't we surprise aunty.
T. }

(*exit, singing*) How doth the little bumble bee,
Improve each shinin' hour.

SCENE THIRD.—A street in second grooves.

Enter Budgie and Toddie L. Budgie has a fiddle made with an old cheese box, a long neck, cords for strings, bow rosined to make a hideous noise. Toddie has a tin whistle. After an introduction on their instruments they sing.

De heart bowed down by weight ob cheese,
Has long since ceased to beat;
But every penny it can seize,
It pockets on de street.

So Aunty Alice wants a hoss,
A black, or white, or gray,
To get it, please a penny toss,
For dat is why we play.

(*practicable window in flat opens—Mrs. Thistletop looks out.*)

Mrs T. Well, if dat ain't a sin! Here are two dear little boys who are compelled by their cruel parents to play around de streets for pennies.

Alice. (*looks out*) Why, those are my two nephews. Come in here you two rascals, come in here at once, or I'll flog you within an inch of your lives.

Enter Harry, R.

Har. Hello! Hello! What do I hear? Alice, have you given up, too?

B. We's only been playin' fer pennies to buy you and Auntie a hoss and phantom, ain't we Toddie?

T. Yes, and we's got over a dollar, and we didn't tell any lie about it either. We told everybody dat we was goin' to buy you and Auntie a hoss and phantom wid de money.

Har. Well, I declare, if dat don't beat all. You scoundrels.

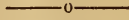
[lifts cane as if to strike them.]

B. You will, will you? *(takes fiddle with both hands by the neck and hits Harry. Toddy with club hits him behind. Alice and Mrs. Thistletop at window screaming. Harry shouting for help.)*

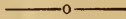
CURTAIN.



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46	Man and Wife, drama, 5 acts, by H. A. Webber.....	12	7
91	Michael Erle, drama, 2 acts, by Egerton Wilks.....	8	3
36	Miller of Derwent Water, drama, 3 acts, by E. Fitzball.....	5	2
83	Mischievous Nigger, ethiopean farce, 1 act, by C. White...4	2	
34	Mistletoe Bough, melo-drama, 2 acts, by C. Somerset.....	7	3
69	Mother's Fool, farce, 1 act, by W. Henri Wilkins.....	6	1
1	Mr. & Mrs. Pringle, farce, 1 act, by Don T. De Treuba Cosio..	7	2
23	My Heart's in the Highlands, farce, 1 act,.....	4	3
32	My Wife's Relations, comedietta, 1 act, by Walter Gordon...4	4	
90	No Cure No Pay, ethiopean farce, 1 act, by G. W. H. Griffin..	3	1
61	Not as Deaf as He Seems, ethiopean farce, 1 act,.....	2	0
37	Not so Bad After All, comedy, 3 acts, by Wybert Reeve.....	6	5
44	Obedience, comedietta, 1 act, by Hattie L. Lambla.....	1	2
81	Old Phil's Birthday, drama, 2 acts, by J. P. Wooler.....	5	2
33	On the Sly, farce, 1 act, by John Madison Morton.....	3	2
109	Other People's Children, etho farce, 1 act, by A. N. Field....	3	2
85	Outcast's Wife, drama, 3 acts, by Colin H. Hazlewood.....	12	3
83	Out on the World, drama, 3 acts,.....	5	4
53	Out in the Streets, temp drama, 3 acts, by S. N. Cook	6	4
57	Paddy Miles' Boy, irish farce, 1 act, by James Pilgrim.....	5	2
29	Painter of Ghent, play, 1 act, by Douglass Jerrold.....	5	2
114	Passions, comedy, 4 acts, by F. Marmaduke Dey.....	8	4
18	Poacher's Doom, domestic drama, 3 acts, by A. D. Ames....	8	3
51	Rescued, temperance drama, 2 acts, by C. H. Gilbert.....	5	3
110	Reverses, domestic drama, 5 acts, by A. Newton Field.....	12	6
45	Reverend the Orphan, drama, 1 act, by W. Henri Wilkins..	5	3
96	Rooms to Let without Board, ethiopean farce, 1 act,.....	2	1
59	Saved, temperance sketch, 1 act, by Edwin Tardy... ..	2	3
48	Schnaps, dutch farce, 1 act, by M. A. D. Clifton	1	1
107	School, ethiopean farce, 1 act, by A. Newton Field.....	5	0
115	S. H. A. M. Pinafore, burl'sq, 1 act, by W. Henri Wilkins..	5	3
55	Somebody's Nobody, farce, 1 act, by C. A. Maltby.....	3	2
94	Sixteen Thousand Years Ago, ethiopean farce, 1 act,.....	3	0
25	Sport with a Sportsman, ethiopean farce, 1 act,.....	2	0
79	Spy of Atlanta, military allegory, 6 acts, by A. D. Ames...14	3	
92	Stage Struck Darkey, ethiopean farce, 1 act,.....	2	1
10	Stocks Up, Stocks Down, ethiopean farce, 1 act,.....	2	0
62	Ten Nights in a Bar Room, temperance drama, 5 acts,.....	7	3
64	That Boy Sam, etho farce, 1 act, by F. L. Cutler.....	3	1
40	That Mysterious Bundle, farce, 1 act, by H. L. Lambla.....	2	2
38	The Bewitched Closet, sketch, 1 act, by H. L. Lambla.....	5	2
87	The Biter Bit, comedy, 2 acts, by Barham Livius.....	5	2
101	The Coming Man, farce, 1 act, by W. Henri Wilkins.....	3	1
67	The False Friend, drama, 2 act, by Geo. S. Vautrot.....	6	1
97	The Fatal Blow, melo-drama, 2 acts, by Edward Fitzball...7	7	1
93	The Gentleman in Black, drama, 2 act, W. H. Murry.....	9	4
112	The New Magdalen, drama, pro 3 acts, by A. Newton Field...8	3	
71	The Reward of Crime, drama, 2 acts, by W. Henri Wilkins..	5	3
16	The Serf, tragedy, 5 acts, by R. Talbot.....	6	3
68	The Sham Professor, farce, 1 act, by F. L. Cutler.....	4	0
6	The Studio, ethiopean farce, 1 act,.....	3	0
102	Turn of the Tide, temp drama, 3 acts, by W. Henri Wilkins..	7	4
54	The Two T. J's, farce, 1 act, by Martin Beecher.....	4	2



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AMES' PLAYS,--CO

NO.			
7	The Vow of the Ornani, drama, 3 acts,		
28	Thirty-three next Birthday, farce, 1 act, by M. Morton.....	4	2
118	Those Awful Boys, etho farce, 1 act, by A. Newton Field.....	5	0
63	Three Glasses a Day, tem dra, 2 acts, by W. Henri Wilkins....	4	2
105	Through Snow and Sunshine, drama, 5 acts.....	6	4
4	Twain's Dodging, etho farce, 1 act, by A. Newton Field.....	3	1
5	When Women Weep, com'd'ta, 1 act, by J. N. Gotthold.....	3	2
56	Wooing Under Difficulties, farce, 1 act, by J. T. Douglass....	4	3
41	Won at Last, comedy drama, 3 acts, by Wybert Reeve.....	7	3
70	Which will he MARRY, farce, 1 act, by Thos. E. Wilks.....	2	8
58	Wrecked, temperance drama, 2 acts, by A. D. Ames.....	9	3
111	Yankee Duelist, farce, 1 act, by A. Newton Field.....	2	2

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